

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-11 without prejudice to continued prosecution. The claims and their status are shown below.

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A method of assessing the risk of an individual for sudden death due to cardiovascular pathology, the method comprising:

obtaining T wave signals representative of electrical activity of the heart of said individual;

detecting the presence of non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology for isochronic points between consecutive T waves in said signals; and

determining a T wave lability index from said non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology,

wherein a T wave lability index that is significantly different than a reference value is indicative of an increased risk of said individual for sudden death due to a cardiovascular disease.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising administering a chemical stressor to said individual.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said cardiovascular pathology is selected from the group consisting of long QT syndrome, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, dilated cardiomyopathy, coronary artery disease, myocardial ischemia, idiopathic ventricular fibrillation and Brugada syndrome.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said individual presents with QT prolongation, QT variability, ectopy, TWA, OHCA, syncope, angina, late potentials, QT dispersion, wide complex tachycardia, unexplained seizures and unexplained near drownings.

16-20 (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method, the method comprising: identifying non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology for isochronic points between consecutive T waves in signals representative of electrical activity of the heart of an individual; and calculating a T wave lability index as a function of said non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology.

22. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium having instructions stored thereon for causing a programmable processor to:

identify non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology for isochronic points between consecutive T waves in T wave signals representative of electrical activity of the heart of an individual; and

determine a T wave lability index as a function of said non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 22, wherein said determining a T wave lability index as a function of said non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology comprises eliminating ectopic beats and sinus beats preceding and following said ectopic beats and calculating the maximal value of root-mean-square differences for isochronic points of a repolarization interval between pairs of consecutive T waves.

24. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein said ectopic beats comprise a ventricular premature contraction or an atrial premature contraction.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein said determining a T wave lability index as a function of said non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology further comprises filtering said signal prior to said calculating.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein said determining a T wave lability index as a function of said non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology further comprises removing baseline fluctuation from said signal prior to said calculating.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 23, wherein said determining a T wave lability index as a function of said non-alternating fluctuations in T wave morphology further comprises normalizing said maximal value of root-mean-square differences to the absolute magnitude of the signal-averaged QRS complex after said calculating.

28-36. (Canceled)